





GUACANAGARI	PONTIAC	BLACK HAWK
MONTEZUMA	CAPTAIN PIPE	KEOKUK
GUATIMOTZIN	LOGAN	SACAGAWEA
POWHATAN	CORNPLANTER	BENITO JUAREZ
POCAHONTAS	JOSEPH BRANT	MANGUS
SAMOSET	RED JACKET	COLORADAS
MASSASOIT	LITTLE TURTLE	LITTLE CROW
KING PHILIP	TECUMSEH	SITTING BULL
UNCAS	OSCEOLA	CHIEF JOSEPH
TEDYUSKUNG	SEQUOYA	GERONIMO
	SHABONEE	



TO PERPETUATE THE HISTORY  
AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE  
PEOPLE REPRESENTED BY THE  
ABOVE CHIEFS AND WISE MEN  
THIS COLLECTION HAS BEEN  
GATHERED BY THEIR FRIEND  
EDWARD EVERETT AYER

AND PRESENTED BY HIM  
TO  
THE NEWBERRY LIBRARY  
1911













*Mr Tho's Walcott*

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A NEW SOCIETY,  
FOR THE  
**BENEFIT OF INDIANS,**  
ORGANIZED  
AT THE CITY OF WASHINGTON,  
FEBRUARY, 1822.

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At a meeting of a number of Gentlemen, held at *Brown's Hotel*, on the evening of February 5, 1822, and by adjournments to the 9th of said month, ELIAS B. CALDWELL, Esq. was appointed to the chair, JOHN R. BELL, Secretary.

The following CONSTITUTION was prepared, considered, and unanimously adopted; and the officers, after named, were unanimously elected, agreeably to the provisions of the Constitution.

E. B. CALDWELL,  
*Chairman.*

J. R. BELL, *Secretary.*

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## PREAMBLE.

Whereas the public attention has been recently awakened, and turned with peculiar interest, to the civilization of the Indian tribes within the United States, and it has hence become necessary to investigate the history, character, and actual condition of these tribes—And whereas the labor of a full, extensive, and accurate survey of this wide-spread and interesting field, is too great for individual effort: Therefore, for the purpose of combining the wisdom, the talents, and active energies of men of information, qualified and inclined to engage in this benevolent work, and directing them to the aid and support of those, whose office requires that they take the lead in accomplishing it, a SOCIETY has been formed and organized under the following

## CONSTITUTION.

I. The name of this Association shall be, “THE AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR PROMOTING THE CIVILIZATION AND GENERAL IMPROVEMENT OF THE INDIAN TRIBES WITHIN THE UNITED STATES.”

II. The special objects of this Society shall be, to secure for these tribes instruction in all branches of knowledge, suited to their capacities and condition; and for this purpose, to ascertain the character and strength of their moral and intellectual powers, and their dispositions to receive instruction: to examine into their origin, history, memorials, antiquities, traditions, governments, customs, manners, laws, languages, and religions; into their dis-

eases, remedies, and manner of applying them;—also, into the efforts which have been already made for meliorating their condition, and the results of those efforts, and where they have failed—the causes of failure : to ascertain the number and names of the tribes, their places of residence, the extent, soil, and climate, of their respective territories, the stations where education families may be most advantageously located, and to suggest whatever means may be employed for their improvement.

Other objects of the Society shall be, to obtain a knowledge of the geography, mineralogy, geology, natural history, &c. of the Indian country—to collect specimens in all these branches of science, for the purpose of forming a CABINET for the use of the Government of the United States :—Also, to select suitable spots in the Indian country, for making experimental farms in the immediate view of Indians, on which to cultivate the different kinds of grains, grasses, trees, plants, roots, and other garden vegetables, adapted to the various soils and climates of the aforesaid country ; to introduce the best breeds of domestic animals, and feathered fowls : And generally, to do all other things, which such a Society can do, to accomplish its grand object, THE CIVILIZATION OF THE INDIANS.

III. Two rooms in this city shall be procured and appropriated to the use of the Society ; one for its CABINET, the other for its LIBRARY, and the use of the Secretaries.

IV. The Officers of this Society shall be such number of Patrons, as it may see fit to appoint, a President, Vice Presidents, a Corresponding Secretary, with two Assistants, a Recording Secretary, with an Assistant, a



Treasurer, an Auditor, a Board of Directors, a Committee of Ways and Means, a Cabinet-Keeper, a Librarian, and a select body of Special Correspondents.

V. The successive Presidents of the United States, who shall have retired from office, shall be, ex-officio, Patrons of this Society, the Vice-President of the United States, ex-officio, its President; the Heads of Departments, Judges of the Supreme Court of the United States, and Governors of the several States and Territories, ex-officio, Vice-Presidents.

VI. The President of the Society, at its meetings, shall take the chair, and fulfil all the customary duties belonging to a presiding officer. In his absence, the senior Vice-President, or next senior officer present, shall take his place and fulfil his duties.

VII. The Recording Secretary, Treasurer, Auditor, and all the Assistant Officers, will perform all the duties appropriate to their respective offices, which are usually performed by officers of of like name in other Societies.

VIII. The Corresponding Secretary shall carry on correspondence with such members of the General, State, and Territorial Governments; with the Special Correspondents of the Society; with Military Officers; Missionary Societies; Indian Superintendents and Agents; and all other associations and individuals in our own country, who may be able to furnish information touching the objects of this Society, or otherwise assist its operations; Also with Foreign Societies of like character and objects; and shall communicate his correspondence and the information he shall have received, at the annual meeting of the Society;

and, under the instructions of the Board of Directors, shall prepare the Annual Report of the Society.

IX. The Board of Directors shall consist of *thirteen members*, five of whom shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of all business of the Society, except the alteration of its Constitution, and the disposal of its funds ; and for these purposes nine members shall be required for a quorum. The Board shall make, modify, and repeal, at its discretion, all rules and bye-laws which they may form for the regulation of the Society ; superintend its general concerns ; advise the Corresponding Secretary in the discharge of his duties ; and after the first organization of the Society, shall fill their own vacancies, and vacancies of all other elective officers of the Society ; and shall make such alterations and improvements of the Constitution, elect such Honorary Members, and add such Special Correspondents, as they may think expedient, for the better attainment of the objects of the Society.

The Corresponding Secretary, his First Assistant, and the Recording Secretary, shall be, *ex-officio*, members of this Board.

X. The Committee of Ways and Means shall consist of five members, three of whom may constitute a quorum. This Committee shall devise and prosecute to effect, the measures most practicable, and best adapted, to supply the Treasury with the necessary funds to carry on its operations. They shall also provide and superintend the rooms for the Cabinet and Library of the Society, for the accommodation of its officers, and for its annual public meetings, and shall appoint and instruct the Cabinet-Keeper and Librarian in their respective duties.

It shall also be the duty of this Committee to collect materials, books, manuscripts, &c. for the Cabinet and Library, suited to the objects of the Society.



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XI. It shall be the duty of the SPECIAL CORRESPONDENTS of the Society, to communicate to the Corresponding Secretary, from time to time, such facts, books, documents, printed and manuscript, ancient and modern, and general and particular information, as they may possess or collect, and may think it expedient to transmit, with their own remarks and suggestions, to be deposited in the Archives of the Society, at the City of Washington.

XII. Members of both Houses of Congress ; General Officers of the Army ; Commissioners of the Navy ; the Presidents and Professors of Colleges and Theological Seminaries ; the Clergy of all denominations throughout the United States ; the Presidents and Secretaries of all Associations and Societies, who embrace Indians among the objects of their attention ; all Commanding Officers of Military posts, within, or near, the Indian Territories ; all Superintendents of Indians, and Indian Agents, shall be, ex-officio, members of this Society.

Any person may become a member of this Society, by transmitting the sum of five dollars, with his name and address, to the Recording Secretary, to be placed on the Register of Members.

The Society will depend on the voluntary contributions of its members, to supply its Treasury with the funds necessary to carry on its various and extensive operations.

XIII. There shall be an annual meeting of the Society, at the seat of the Government of the United States, at twelve o'clock, on the Wednesday succeeding the day appointed for the opening of Congress, of which notice shall be given in the public papers, by the Recording Secretary.

## OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY.

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### PATRONS.

\* \* \*

Hon. *John Adams.*

Hon. *Thomas Jefferson.*

Hon. *James Madison.*

Late successive Presidents of the United States.

### PRESIDENT.

The *Vice President of the United States*, ex officio.

### VICE-PRESIDENTS, ex-officio.

The Hon. *The Secretary of State.*

The Hon. *The Secretary of the Treasury.*

The Hon. *The Secretary of War.*

The Hon. *The Secretary of the Navy.*

The Hon. *The Judges of the Supreme Court of the United States.*

Their Excellencies, *the Governors of the several States and Territories*, comprised in the National Union.

### HONORARY MEMBERS.

Hon. *John Jay.*

Gen. *Charles C. Pinckney.*

Hon. *James Hillhouse.*

Gen. *Thomas Pinckney.*

Gen. *Andrew Jackson.*

Hon. *Henry Clay.*

\*\*\* The name of the PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES might be expected to stand at the head of this respectable list ; but as he is, from the nature of his office, THE HEAD OF THE NATION, and of course of all its public Institutions, which are strictly *National* in their character, it is deemed superfluous and improper to place it here



*Rev. Jedidiah Morse, D. D. Corresponding Secretary.*

*George H. Richards, Esq. First Assistant Secretary.*

*Sidney Edwards Morse, A. M. Second Assistant do.*

*Elias B. Caldwell, Esq. Recording Secretary.*

*George Watterston, Esq. Assistant do.*

*Joseph Nourse, Esq. Treasurer.*

*Peter Hagner, Esq. Auditor.*

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

*Hon. Wm. Wirt, Attorney General of the United States.*

*Francis S. Key, Esq.*

*Rev. James Milnor, D. D.*

*Rev. John Heckewelder.*

*Thomas Eddy.*

*Robert Ralston, Esq.*

*Rev. William Staughton, D. D.*

*Rev. Philip Milledoler, D. D.*

*Rev. James Laurie, D. D.*

*Rev. William Ryland.*

*The Corresponding Secretary, ex-officio.*

*The First Assistant Secretary, do.*

*The Recording Secretary, do.*

#### COMMITTEE OF WAYS AND MEANS.

*Josiah Meigs, Esq.*

*Gen. Walter Jones.*

*Gen. John Mason.*

*Col. Thomas M<sup>c</sup>Kenney.*

*Thomas Sewall, M. D.*

#### SPECIAL CORRESPONDENTS.

*The Presidents and Professors of Universities and Colleges in the United States, ex-officio.*

*Peter S. Duponceau, Esq.*

*Saml. L. Mitchell, M. D. L. L. D.*

*Isaiah Thomas, Esq.*

*David Hosack, M. D.*

*John Pintard, Esq.*

Col. *Wm. M'Ree*,  
 Hon. *John Davis*.  
 Rev. *James Freeman, D. D.*  
*Thomas Walcott, Esq.*  
 Rev. *Abiel Holmes, D. D.*  
*Saml. R. Trevett, M. D.*  
*James G. Trotter, Esq.*  
 Hon. *John Pickering*.  
 Rev. *John Sergeant*.  
*Caleb Atwater, Esq.*  
 Hon. *Daniel Coney*.  
 Rev. *Mr. Gambold*.  
 Rev. *Wm. Jenks*.  
*Jeremiah Evarts, Esq.*  
*John Law, Esq.*  
 Rev. *Eleazer Williams*.  
*George I. F. Clark, Esq.*  
*Solomon U. Hendrick, a Chief of the Mubheconnuks.*  
*Charles Hicks, Chief of the Cherokees.*  
*Indian Agents, ex-officio.*



## CIRCULAR.



SIR,

*The history and actual state of the Indian Tribes in our country, are undoubtedly, in every point of view, subjects of great interest to the Statesman, the Philosopher, the Patriot, the Philanthropist, and, peculiarly, to the Christian. These, you will perceive, are the prominent subjects contemplated by the Society, whose Constitution is herewith transmitted to you. If, Sir, your own views on these subjects accord with those of the Founders and Patrons of this Society, and you incline to co-operate with them in the arduous work in which they have engaged, a communication from you, to that effect, would be highly acceptable.*

*In the name and behalf of the Society, I have the honor to be, with high consideration and esteem,*

*Your obedient servant,*

JEDIDIAH MORSE,

Corresponding Sec'y.

NEW-HAVEN, (CONN.)

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To Mr Thos Walcott

1844



## NOTE:

The *Corresponding Secretary* of "the Society for the Benefit of Indians," in fulfilment of the duty prescribed for him in the foregoing Constitution, respectfully requests the various officers of the Society, honorary Members, Special Correspondents, and all others of its Members, after they shall have opportunity deliberately to examine and consider the various objects specified in the second

article of the Constitution, to transmit to him\* their opinion, as to these objects; and if approved, on the best means of effecting them. Also, any books or documents, ancient or modern, printed or in manuscript, or information in any other form, which may throw light on the ancient or modern history, or present state, of our Indians, in the various particulars enumerated in the Article above referred to.

The Secretary, believing most sincerely that the objects contemplated by the Society are of vast importance to the welfare of the Indians, to the honor of our country, and to the interests of our common Christianity; and that we possess the means requisite, with the blessing of Heaven, for the attainment of these objects, begs leave earnestly to request all gentlemen who have like feelings and views, to lend their aid, in every way which they can devise, to accomplish an end so desirable. He leaves it to every Gentleman to pursue his own course in reference to this end, and only asks *that* attention to it, which its immense importance obviously demands.

With these observations, the Secretary leaves the subject with his fellow Christians and fellow Citizens, adding only the words of Lord Nelson, in another case applicable to this—THE NATION, now awake to this subject, "EXPECTS THAT EVERY MAN WILL DO HIS DUTY."

\* NOTE.—If *parcels*, by safe *private* conveyance; if *letters*, by mail.

*Washington City, March 15. 1822.*





## FORM OF A SUBSCRIPTION PAPER,

To be Subscribed by such as shall be inclined to do it, and transmitted to JOSEPH NOURSE, Esq. *Treasurer of the Society.*

Desirous of giving our support to the objects of *The American Society for promoting the Civilization, and general improvement of the Indian Tribes within the United States*, the Subscribers agree to pay to the Treasurer of that Society the sums annexed to their respective names.

<i>Names.</i>	<i>Residence.</i>	<i>Annual Subscriptions.</i>	<i>Donations.</i>
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